

SUPERVISOR KELLY PUTS IT UP TO THE DELEGATION

Gentlemen:

Our positions as Public officials, are supposed to be very closely allied, your acts are to govern and control mine, and if I fail to abide by yours, the County inevitably goes to the bad financially. The results would be the same if your acts are not wise or equitable. Yours being the Legislative and mine the supposed to be administrative. I hope you will not think me officious, or that I am trying to encroach or interfere in your department, with the following statements and suggestions. All ill, imaginary or otherwise, have been laid on the Supervisor. As this has been done by those that are not informed, and also by those that know better, and for a purpose, we think it high time for the facts to be known.

1. High taxes being the first that we are blamed with, or at least that we are not getting results, or using the funds equitably. Here are the facts: The assessed value of the property in the County is \$4,862,650.00, on this the State levy is 8 1/2 mills, County 7 mills, Bonds, Court House and County, 2 1/2 mills. (The Auditor and Treasurer have failed to put one mill of this on this year, which will cause some confusion, and some more expense on the taxpayers, still they will have to pay it.) I am not responsible for this. Three mill constitutional school, making a total of 21 mills with the following special school and school Bond Tax:

	Mills	Total
School District No. 1	10	31
School District No. 2	3	24
School District No. 3	6	27
School District No. 4	0	21
School District No. 5	7	28
School District No. 6	0	21
School District No. 7	4	25
School District No. 8	0	21
School District No. 9	13	34
School District No. 10	4	25
School District No. 11	4	25
School District No. 12	2	23
School District No. 13	6	27
School District No. 14	6	27
School District No. 15	11 1/2	32 1/2
School District No. 16	2	23
School District No. 17	4	25
School District No. 18	6	27
School District No. 19	14	35
School District No. 20	14 1/2	35 1/2
School District No. 21	6	27
School District No. 22	11	32
School District No. 23	0	21
School District No. 24	3	24
School District No. 25	4	25
School District No. 26	8	29
School District No. 27	6	27
School District No. 28	8	29
School District No. 29	8	29
School District No. 30	9	30
School District No. 31	4	25
School District No. 32	4	25
School District No. 33	8	29

This gives us a County Tax levy ranging from 2 1/10 to 3 1/2 per cent on the assessed value of the property in our County. This is a dangerous tax rate. Our taxing system is in a mess.

Including Poll and Dog tax this gives us a total of \$140,223.75. \$40,116.85 of this goes to the State Treasurer to run the State Government. \$58,774.38 to the County schools, \$7,293.97 to Court House and County Bonds, \$11,425.00 to salaries of County Officers, \$1,130.00 to Tobacco Club Work, \$1,280.00 to vital statistics, Sanatorium, Rescue Orphanage, etc., \$11,050.00 for Court, Jail, Post Mortem, Public Buildings, Printing Postage, etc., Poor and Miscellaneous. All of the above is fixed by law, we have no control over them. \$7,000.00 for Chain Gang Roads and Bridges. This \$7,000.00 is the only part of the \$140,223.75 that the Board of Commissioners have any control over.

Is this an equitable division of our tax money? We unhesitatingly say it is not.

Just a few days ago, I was told by a gentleman in Sumterton, that he had just paid his taxes, and judging from the amount, he could think of no reasonable excuse why I could not have better roads, that is, if everybody's taxes were as high in proportion as his. I undertook to explain to him what disposition was made of tax money. He paid \$30.75 and only \$1.53 of this could be used on the roads. But he acted as if no explanation was necessary. Quite a bit of these kind in the County. Imagine my contempt for the kind. Complaints are being filed with and against me each day as to the bad conditions of the roads. I know that good roads create wealth, and pleasant dispositions. Bad roads, poverty, cuss words, and evil thoughts against the Supervisor.

If you gentlemen think that \$7,000.00 out of a total of \$140,223.75 is an equitable division and you do not care to put any more on the property owners for roads—well and good, your acts as law shall be complied with for the next two years, as in the past two.

2. Roads and Bridges is the one most important thing in connection with County affairs. I am of the opinion that our people are anxious for an improvement in this department, and they are willing to pay for better roads.

We have in the County approximately 900 miles of roads, and request for more.

We have 733 Bridges in the County. It would take six hundred and eighty nine thousand feet of lumber to build them—on 1/5th of them need to be

built now. It would take 137,000 feet of lumber or \$3,500.00, hauling and construction \$2,000.00 or a total bridge expense each year of \$6,700.00 and if we use lumber will take this much each year indefinitely. It will take \$15,000.00 as a maintenance fund for roads. If we had improved roads it would not take any more. Bad roads is causing an annual loss of more than the total tax of our County. Why not provide for the saving of this by providing for a road fund sufficient to improve the highways.

In my estimate for County expenses to the Comptroller General, which will be included in this, we have put in a sufficient road fund to begin some permanent improvements, provided you will give us the privilege of using any part of this to secure the Federal Aid road, fund for this County. (We have been deprived of the use of this for the past two years.) If you do not change the supply bill in any vital way, we can do this without any increase in county taxes.

3. We have no road system in this County or in the State. We need a law creating a road system, divided into three types of roads. First: State Highways, to be designated or selected by the State Highway Commission and the Board of Commissioners. Second: County Highways, to be designated by the Board of Commissioners and two-thirds of the land owners on the roads. Third: County public roads, which could be advanced to a higher grade as the traffic required. State highways should be 30 feet wide, clear of all drains and ditches. County highways should be 24 feet wide, clear of all drains and ditches. County public roads should be 20 feet wide clear of all drains and ditches. After a road has been put in any class, the property owners will be benefited and they should be required to acquiescence in the improvements. If the Legislative Delegation provides for the 1,500 miles of roads that will be asked for by the Automobile Association (which I endorse) the State highway type will be provided for. We could then apply all of the County funds on the last two. We could then make rapid strides towards a perfect road system and good roads.

4. Act No. 143 passed in 1917, should be repealed and a commutation tax of \$3.00 be put in the regular tax act for 1919.

5. We recommend the following supply bill for Clarendon County. For all County purposes, seven mills, and a commutation tax of \$3.00 from the age of 21 to 60 years, to be expended as follows:

Maintenance of road working organization	\$10,000.00
Permanent road improvement and all amounts raised by automobile license	10,000.00
Type three, roads	10,000.00
Salaries:	
Clerk of Court	150.00
Sheriff	1,000.00
Deputy Sheriff	450.00
Treasurer	450.00
Clerk to Treasurer	400.00
Auditor	450.00
Clerk to Auditor	400.00
Superintendent of Education	1,200.00
Attorney	125.00
Physician	200.00
Coroner	250.00
Janitor of Court House	400.00
Supervisor	1,200.00
County Commissioners, two at \$150.00 each	300.00
Clerk to Supervisor	400.00
Magistrates of County	1,650.00
Constables for Magistrates	650.00
County Board of Education—note recommendation	512.00
Jail Expenses	1,500.00
Jurors and Witnesses	2,000.00
Poor	1,000.00
Post Mortem, Inquest and Lunacy	550.00
Public Buildings	1,500.00
Printing, Postage, etc.	1,000.00
Miscellaneous	500.00
Vital Statistics	500.00
Two Rural Policemen at	2,400.00

If you gentlemen will not change this, in any vital way, seven mills with the commutation and fines will raise sufficient revenue with a good, safe balance.

There is quite a clamor for a Bond issue for permanent road improvements. As our term of office will have expired before a bond issue could be available, we will not make any suggestions as to a bond issue.

We need relief now, and the only way to get it is by direct taxation, or accept our proposition as given in the suggested supply bill. Please do this or something better. A graded vehicle license tax for roads would be one way.

8. The following is a report as to appropriations for 1918:

Roads, Bridges and Chain Gang, by balance	\$2,089.69
Board of Education and Equalization	170.00
Jail	1,157.08
Court	1,772.23
Printing, Postage, etc.	50.18
Rural Police	878.15
Poor, all claims not in.	
Post Mortem, Inquest and Lunacy, balance	131.70
Public Buildings, balance	172.15
Miscellaneous, deficit	8.33
Vital Statistics, no claim in	
State Tuberculosis Sanatorium	208.00

Mrs. D. E. Gamble received treatment at the Sanatorium until she died. No other applications for

PAXVILLE ITEMS.

Mr. J. L. Pritchard of Sumter spent last Monday here on a business trip. Miss Lucile Geddings who is attending school in Sumter spent the week-end with her parents, Mr. and Mrs. F. S. Geddings.

Mr. and Mrs. T. R. Owen are the proud parents of a little baby boy. Mumford and Jones, vaudeville performers from the North are here to spend their winter vacation.

There has been a slight recurrence of influenza in this community, but nothing like an epidemic as last fall. Mrs. B. W. Cutter is back from Summerton where she has been nursing members of her family with influenza.

Mr. Peter Hodges spent a few days of last week visiting his brother, Mr. Joe Hodge, at Lamar.

GREENVILLE'S GOOD ROADS

Greenville, Jan. 20.—Farmland in Greenville county that sold for \$65 an acre and which is now situated along the permanent roads built in that county is now bringing anywhere from \$150 to \$200 an acre, according to P. M. Burnett, secretary of the Greenville Chamber of Commerce.

Mr. Burnett declares that the construction of permanent roads has accomplished wonders for his county. So enthusiastic are the people of the county over them that if they could they would vote to spend another million dollars in the construction of more of them. It would probably be easier, according to Mr. Burnett, to vote a bond issue in Greenville county than in any other county in the State. The people there, he says, having built a system of good roads, have been in position to see the benefits accruing from them.

Mr. Burnett is very heartily supporting the plans mapped out by the central good roads campaign committee looking to the construction of a state system of permanent roads. As the building of a system of permanent roads in Greenville county has caused a tremendous increase in land values in that county, so does Mr. Burnett believe that the construction of state-wide system would mean a tremendous increase in land values all over the state.

"I hope that as many of the counties of the state as can possibly do so will put out bond issues at this session of the Legislature," said Mr. Burnett. "In this way a good beginning can be made on the construction of the system. I am sure that no county that makes the move will ever regret it. It will prove one of the wisest investments it ever made."

To Prepare for Embarkation.

Washington, Jan. 21.—Official announcement was made by the War Department today that the entire Thirtieth division, now part of the American army of occupation in the war zone, has been released and instructed to prepare for embarkation. It has already been published that the Thirtieth will be debarked at Charleston.

treatment were filed with us.

Kitchen at Jail ----- 1,800.00

The fact that our appropriation is not available as money until the taxes are paid in, and on account of the scarcity and high price of labor and material, we could not do the work. We now have the money and will erect the kitchen, but as yet we have no bid as low as \$1,800.00.

Balance of 1918 Appropriation, not including jail Appropriation ----- \$ 6,620.85

We recommend that this be diverted to the road fund.

9. Will Bethune.

Will Bethune has cost the Tax payers of Clarendon County enough since I have been Supervisor I have paid the Penitentiary \$934.30, dieting expense. Of this amount \$678.80 was for unpaid claims when I took charge of office. \$109.50 for 1917 and \$146.00 for 1918. He should be executed, pardoned or paroled. We recommend that you investigate this case, and if possible get us relieved from this.

10. All claims for 1918 (except the departments mentioned in the appropriation report) have been paid and also \$819.19 for 1918.

The County owes for borrowed money \$12,500.00.

We have in the Treasurer's following amounts:

Miscellaneous Fund	\$ 543.85
Commutation Fund	2,955.08
Ordinary Fund	10,924.02
Fines and Licenses Fund	665.51
State Auto Licenses	563.35
1918 Loan	3,104.57
	\$18,187.56
Less Borrowed Money	12,500.00
Balance	\$ 5,687.56

If at any time you gentlemen want a report in detail on my department of the County government that comes under the control of the Commissioners it will be a pleasure to give it.

Very respectfully submitted,
J. E. KELLY,
I. V. PLOWDEN.

THE RED CROSS TO MOVE

Clarendon County Chapter A. R. C. expects to change quarters right away. There are a good many articles in the Red Cross room belonging to different people and we will be very glad for the owners to call and get them, for it will simplify moving.

Quite a number of jars were brought in with soup, during the influenza epidemic. They have been here ever since as the owners are unknown. A black fur neck piece and several pairs of gloves have been here for some time.

Ladies please don't forget that there are three hundred and sixty serge skirts to be made in less than a month's time. The pattern is very simple and the skirts are easy to make so don't be frightened at the idea of making serge skirts. There is a most urgent need of these garments and we have been asked to finish them with the greatest possible haste.

Please send in knitted articles and wool as soon as possible. Knitting is to be discontinued after articles already begun are finished. Headquarters has requested that all knitted goods be shipped right away for now is the time that the soldiers will need them.

If anyone lacks wool to finish socks and sweaters, there are a number of wool remnants that can be used for the purpose.

We have quite a number of cartoons on hand. These cartoons were ordered for the purpose of sending the over-seas boys Christmas boxes. Several hundred were not used. They are a very convenient size for putting up lunches. We will sell them at the rate of twenty-five for 35c.

A dozen Red Cross calendars have been sent us to sell. These calendars sell for one dollar a piece. Fifty cents of this amount is sent to Atlanta and fifty cents goes to the local chapter. These calendars are very attractive as well as instructive and useful and we are sure you will be well pleased in getting one.

If anyone has an old trunk not in use, the Red Cross will be very glad to have it.

The Southern Division of the American Red Cross has presented to the members of Clarendon County chapter an "Honor Certificate," in recognition of heroic services rendered during Spanish influenza epidemic of 1918. The chapter has a right to feel proud.

The hours of the Secretary are from 10 to 1:30 o'clock in the morning and 2:30 to 5 in the afternoon.

Virginia Wilson,
Secretary.

January 19, 1919.

Editor of Manning Times.

Please allow me space in your paper to give my reason for voting against raising the salaries of the State officers at this time. When they were before the people last July they knew what the salaries would be and the conditions have not changed so let them carry out their contract. The cost of living has not changed since that time. Now if conditions do not become normal by next year I will vote to raise their salaries next term. I fear if they had told the people that they would ask for this raise some of them would not be here today. I was amused at one of them yesterday asking for a raise on the grounds that he could not live on the salary—said he could not pay his house rent and had to buy the house. Now Mr. Editor, did you ever hear of a man having to buy a house because he was too poor to pay the rent? They argue that if the salaries are not raised that only rich men will be able to hold offices. Did you ever hear of a poor man not being able to live as cheap as a rich one?

The good people of Clarendon sent me here to represent them and I will do all I can for their interest. I had to come home Saturday to attend to some local legislation but I paired with a fellow Legislator so as not to lose my vote against raising the salaries. Now when it comes to education and good roads I expect to go the limit.

I am at the service of the people of Clarendon at all times.

W. T. P. SPROTT,
House of Representatives,
Columbia, S. C.

Revolt in Hungary.

Amsterdam, Jan. 21.—It is reported that there have been counter revolutionary demonstrations led by officers at Budapest and that there have been conflicts with the police in which bloodshed resulted.

FLU MAY CAUSE LEGISLATURE TO RECESS UNTIL MAY

Columbia, Jan. 21.—Three things stood out in bold relief today in the legislative proceedings on the Senate side: (1) The possibility of a recess of the General Assembly until the first Tuesday in May; (2) The introduction of a resolution by Senator Miller, of Darlington, asking the tax commission how and why it arrived at the present basis of tax equalizations, and what recommendation it had with reference to future equalization and assessments; (3) The introduction into office of Lieutenant Governor Junius T. Liles and the splendid and well-founded address that he made to the Senators immediately after his return to the Senate chamber from the inauguration ceremonies.

The Situation Disturbs Legislation. For some days there have been mutterings of anxiety on the part of legislators with reference to the "flu" situation. Frankly, members are worried. Reports that they are getting from home are not at all satisfactory. A few have been taken sick either while in Columbia or as a result of travel. Today Senator Buck, of Horry, who has always been an exceedingly level-headed man, presented this resolution:

Whereas, the epidemic of influenza is increasing in the State and becoming a menace to congregated crowds; and

Whereas, the Legislature of South Carolina should not do that which is forbidden by the board of health in towns and cities in the State, to wit, congregate. Therefore be it

Resolved, by the Senate, the House of Representatives concurring, That the Governor, State Treasurer and Comptroller General are hereby authorized and empowered to borrow sufficient funds to meet the necessary expenses of the State for four months by giving notes in the usual form, and that the Legislature do at once recess until the first Tuesday in May, 1919.

Senator Buck said that he had no desire to scare anybody, but that the medical authorities stated that such congregations as the General Assembly or any other congregation were dangerous at this time. The General Assembly was making laws and prohibiting gatherings and yet it was setting a precedent itself. So far as he was concerned he was in favor of adjourning until May, because he regarded public health above everything else. He explained that he had no particular ideas as to the details, and wanted the Senate to reflect over the resolution for a while, but to be in a position to act with as little delay as possible.

Senator Alan Johnstone, one of the oldest members said that he favored the recess until May, because he had seen and experienced the danger of legislative sessions in the face of epidemics and he felt that the late Senator Brice had sacrificed his life because he remained here contrary to the advice of physicians. Senator Johnstone thought that some arrangements could be made by which the State's affairs could be handled without any embarrassment, but he also thought that it would be well to wait until tomorrow, as some further authority may be necessary.

The resolution looking towards a recess has not yet been presented in the House, but the Senate agrees to the Buck resolution that will give the House something on which to act. The indications are today that the Senate will pass the resolution. Of course, conditions may change by tomorrow.

Insurance on Cotton. The Senate will take up in a few days the veto of Governor Manning on the bill which seeks to provide for the sinking fund handling the fire insurance on cotton stored in the State's warehouses.

The understanding is that Senator Banks, the author of the bill providing for this insurance, will undertake to have it passed over the Governor's veto.

Hard Fight Ahead. A very pretty little fight is brewing around an apparently innocent bill prepared by Mr. Davis, of Barnwell County. The bill provides that no county seat shall be within three miles of the county lines of any other county. This is with a view of centrally locating the county seat. Now the suggestion is made that the

point of the proposed legislation is in the contest that, it is said, is scheduled between Blackville and Barnwell for the location of the county seat for Barnwell County. Barnwell is now the county seat, but the talk around the legislative halls is that Blackville has an ambition to get the county seat and Barnwell Court House in insisting upon letting well enough alone. The advocates of Blackville claim that it is the best location and that it was once the county site. On the other hand, those who want the county seat to stay put argue that there is absolutely no reason for the change. This agitation is brought about by the people of Barnwell and Hampton counties, in the sections involved, having voted for the establishment of Allendale County. The idea seems to be to get a part of Orangeburg County, known as the Springfield section, to join Barnwell County, and then to consider the change of location of the county seat. Of course, it will be seen that there are a good many ifs involved, but those interested are taking as little chances as possible under the theory of the "early bird." Mr. Davis is a hard fighter and is going to press his bill.

MILLIONAIRE IN CRAP GAME

Shoots Two Policemen Whom He Mistook for Hold-Up Men.

New York, Jan. 20.—Belief that he was about to be robbed for the third time by holdup men raiding a crap game, prompted Arnold Rothstein to shoot two of eight policemen who descended early this morning upon a game in which he was participating according to the story the police said he told after his arrest on charges of gambling, felonious assault and carrying concealed weapons. The policemen shot were not seriously wounded.

Nineteen other men, including Abe Attell, former boxing champion, were arrested and later released on \$1,000 bail. The police said they had seized several thousand dollars in stakes as evidence.

Rothstein, who is reputed to be a millionaire, is said to have told the police that he lost \$28,000 to hold-up men who raided a crap game in Harlem two years ago, and that the experience was repeated two weeks ago when he lost \$11,000.

AVIATOR LIGETS ON ROOF

Frenchman Wins Big Prize for Performing Stunt.

Paris, Jan. 20.—Jules Vedrines, the aviator, today won a prize of 25,000 francs for being the first airman to land on the roof of a house during a flight.

Vedrines left Issy-Les-Moulineaux at 1:20 o'clock this afternoon, notwithstanding a thick fog, with the purpose of attempting a landing on the roof of the Galleries La Fayette, a large department store near the St. Lazare station. The roof had previously been proposed for use as an aerial station in Paris.

Vedrines flew over the boulevards and slowed down as he passed over the bank building near by, opposite his destination. Here the aviator shut off his engines and skimmed the parapet surrounding the roof by only a few inches. Although the machine was slightly damaged Vedrines was uninjured. When the machine came to a standstill Vedrines waved to a spectator on the bank roof, yelling, "There you are!"

The roof is fourteen metres in width and about twenty-five metres in length. The width of the airplane used by Vedrines is twelve metres.

Afterwards Vedrines said he intended to fly around the world.

FOR GOOD ROADS

All owners of automobiles and every other citizen of Clarendon County is cordially invited to attend a mass meeting at the Court House in Manning Thursday, January 30th, at 4 p. m., to hear the plan for a system of State highways connecting every County seat in South Carolina explained.

Mr. R. G. Rhett of Charleston and others will speak. Charts showing the worth of good roads will be shown.

This meeting is called for the afternoon so that the farmers of the County may attend.

Yours to pull South Carolina out of the mud.

Signed,
S. OLIVER O'BRYAN,
W. C. DAVIS,
J. A. WEINBERG,
CHARLTON DURANT,
DAVID LEVI,
C. R. SPROTT,
J. E. KELLY,
I. E. APPEL,
C. B. GEIGER,
Committee.